



IFW

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

7

Application Number

10/756,984

Filing Date

January 14, 2004

First Named Inventor

Robert Ian Hedley

Art Unit

3652

Examiner Name

Gregory W. Adams

Attorney Docket Number

**ENCLOSURES**

(Check all that apply)

☐

Fee Transmittal Form

☐

Fee Attached

☒

Amendment/Reply

☐

After Final

☐

Affidavits/declaration(s)

☐

Extension of Time Request

☐

Express Abandonment Request

☐

Information Disclosure Statement

☐

Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐Reply to Missing Parts/  
Incomplete Application☐Reply to Missing Parts  
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53☐

Drawing(s)

☐

Licensing-related Papers

☐

Petition

☐Petition to Convert to a  
Provisional Application☐

Power of Attorney, Revocation

☐

Change of Correspondence Address

☐

Terminal Disclaimer

☐

Request for Refund

☐

CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_\_\_

☐

Landscape Table on CD

☐

After Allowance Communication to TC

☐Appeal Communication to Board  
of Appeals and Interferences☐Appeal Communication to TC  
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐

Proprietary Information

☐

Status Letter

☒Other Enclosure(s) (please identify  
below):

Return postcard

Remarks

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm Name

McAfee &amp; Taft

Signature

Printed name

Clifford C. Dougherty, III

Date

April 11, 2005

Reg. No.

31,607

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature

Typed or printed name

Clifford C. Dougherty, III

Date

April 11, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Robert Ian Hedley et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/756,984 ) Group Art Unit: 3652  
Filed: January 14, 2004 ) Examiner: Gregory W. Adams  
For: A TOW HITCH ARRANGEMENT )

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

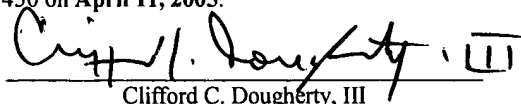
This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action (restriction and/or election requirement) mailed on March 11, 2005.

In the Office Action, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-13 (FIGS. 1-16) drawn to a tow hitch assembly, classified in class 280, subclass 425.2.
- II. Claims 14-25 (FIGS. 17-36) drawn to a loading trailer, classified in class 414, subclass 481.

In response, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-13 (FIGS. 1-16). Accordingly, please withdraw claims 14-25 without prejudice to Applicants' right to file a divisional application directed to such claims.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on April 11, 2005.

  
Clifford C. Dougherty, III